That their hot blood may spin in English eyes,
And dout them[1] with superfluous courage : Ha!
RAM. What, will you have them weep our horses* blood ?
How shall we then behold their natural tears ?

Enter a Messenger.

MESS. The English are embattled, you French peers.
CON. To horse, you gallant princes ! straight to horse!
Do but behold yon poor and starved band,
And your fair show shall suck away their souls[2],

[1] And DOUT them—] The first folio reads—doubt, which, perhaps, may have been used for *to make to doubt, to terrify*.

TYRWHITT.

To *doubt*, or (as it ought to have been spelled) *dout*, is a word still used in Warwickshire, and signifies to *do out*, or *extinguish*. See a note on Hamlet, vol. vii. p. 229, n. 4. For this information I was indebted to my late friend, the Reverend H. Homer. STEEVENS.

In the folio, where alone this passage is found, the word is written *doubt*. To *dout*, for to *do out*, is a common phrase at this day in Devonshire and the other western comities ; where they often say, *dout* the fire, that is, *put out* the fire. Many other words of the same structure are used by otor author: as, to *don*, i. e. to *do on*, to *doff*, i. e. *to do off*, &c. In Hamlet he has used the same phrase:

« ,- -the dram of base
**" Doth all the noble substance of worth
dout,' &c.

The word being provincial, the same mistake has happened in both places; *doubt* being printed in Hamlet instead of *dout*.

Mr. Pope for *doubt* substituted *daunt*, which was adopted in the subsequent editions. For the emendation now made I imagined I should have been answerable: but on looking into Mr. Howe's edition I find he has anticipated me, and has printed the word as it is now exhibited in the text. MALONE.

[2] — STICK away their SOULS,] This strong expression did not escape the notice of Dryden and Pope; the former having (less

chastely) employed it in his Don Sebastian, King of Portugal:

" *Sucking* each others' *souk* while we expire: "

and the latter, in his Eloisa to Abelard :

" *Suck* my last breath, and catch my flying *soul*."

STEBBINS.